

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 01254 270730Z

44

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /035 W

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R 270710Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8638

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 1254

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TW

SUBJECT: INQUIRY ON CAMEROON GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL REPUTATION

REF: LONDON 02541

1. FOLLOWING IS FIRSTHAND BUT UNCONFIRMED INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST STEAMSHIP CO., LTD. OF TAIPEI MENTIONED IN SECOND PARAGRAPH OF REFTEL: COMPANY ESTABLISHED IN 1963; PRESENT REGISTERED CAPITAL EQUIVALENT US\$2.9 MILLION; OWNS FIVE SHIPS HAVING A TOTAL GROSS TONNAGE OF ABOUT 100,000 LONG TONS; GROSS REVENUE IN 1974 TOTALED US\$9 MILLION; BOARD CHAIRMAN AND PRINCIPAL OWNER H.C. TUNG (TUNG HAN CHIA) WELL KNOWN IN LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND CURRENTLY HOLDING CHAIRMANSHIP OF CHINESE MARITIME TRANSPORT LTD. (LARGEST PRIVATE SHIPPING COMPANY IN TAIWAN), THE TAIPING INSURANCE CO., LTD., AND THE FIRST LIFE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

2. H.C. TUNG IS NOT RELATED TO HONG KONG SHIPPING MAGNATE C.Y. TUNG ALTHOUGH THEY ARE FROM SAME PROVINCE, BUT THEY ARE CLOSE BUSINESS ASSOCIATES. C.Y. TUNG FOR EXAMPLE IS GOVERNING DIRECTOR OF CHINESE MARITIME TRANSPORT LTD.

3. COMMENT: FIRST STEAMSHIP CO., LTD., IS PART OF A CLEARLY SUBSTANTIAL GROUP. IT DOES SEEM RATHER STRANGE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS COMPANY WOULD BE ENGAGED IN WHAT WOULD  
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PROBABLY BE MIDDLEMAN ROLE TO ARRANGE SUPPLIES AND FINANCING

INCOUNTRY WITH WHICH ROC DOES NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.  
ALSO SEEMS UNLIKELY H.C. TUNG WOULD MAKE ANY DIRECT INVEST-  
MENT IN SUCH A VENTURE. THIS MAY REPRESENT NO MORE THAN  
TENDENCY OF WEALTHY CHINESE BUSINESSMEN TO RANGE FAR AFIELD  
INQUEST FOR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.  
POPPL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 27 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** INQUIRY ON CAMEROON GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL REPUTATION  
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